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Preface

Special issue of DAM on the Satisfiability Problem

The present issue of DAM contains a collection of 13 papers, most of which were presented in talks at the First Workshop on Satisfiability, which was held on April 29–May 3, 1996, at Certosa di Pontignano, a former mediaval monastery located in the lovely landscape of the Toscana, near Siena in Italy. The workshop was organized by John V. Franco (Cincinnati, USA), Giorgio Gallo (Pisa, Italy), Hans Kleine Büning (Paderborn, Germany), and Ewald Speckenmeyer (Köln, Germany). The meeting has been partly supported by the Universität zu Köln and the Università degli Studi di Siena.

More than 30 people who followed the invitation to the first workshop and more than 40 who participated in a subsequent Second Workshop on Satisfiability in 1998 at Schloss Eringerfeld in Germany have proven the workshop to fill a gap among the conferences.

The workshop announcement included a call for papers for a Special Issue of Discrete Applied Mathematics on Satisfiability, resulting in the current volume. It was the aim of the organizers of the workshop to bring together a group of researchers interested in structural properties of the satisfiability and related problems as well as in its algorithmic aspects or applications. The papers in this issue, which have been selected after a refereeing process following the high standards of DAM, reflect this intention.

In the process of editing a special issue many people are involved. We have to be grateful to the anonymous referees for their evaluation of the papers and their valuable hints, and to Mrs. Ursula Neugebauer from Köln in Germany, for handling the technical aspects of this process. We are indebted to Dr. Peter Hammer, the Chief Editor of DAM, for initiating the idea of this volume and for his advice in several situations. Finally, we have to thank Mrs. Nelly Segal, the Editorial Manager of DAM, for her organizational work in the final preparation of the volume.

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